



MISSION

"No ethnic / minority child, adolescent, or adult will experience preventable conditions at any greater rate than non minorities."

Allen Co.
219.456.4566

Delaware Co.
765.284.6994

Elkhart Co.
219.522.0128

Grant Co.
765.674.7560

Howard Co.
(New Perspective MHCI)
765.868.9804

Lake Co.
219.886.3648

LaPorte Co.
219.878.0365

Madison Co.
765.641.8075

Marion Co.
317.926.3031

American Indian Center
Of Indiana
(Marion Co.)
317.347.5160

St Joseph Co.
219.288.9283

Southern Ind. MHI
812.284.5283

Tippecanoe Co.
765.742.6579

Vanderburgh Co.
812.423.5452

Vigo Co.
812.254.8713

Wayne Co.
765.962.2927

August 4, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: FCC Docket #: 03-167

Dear Ms. Dortch:

My name is Stephanie DeKemper and I am the President of the Indiana Minority Health Coalition, Inc. I am aware that SBC Indiana recently applied to the FCC for permission to provide long distance service in Indiana. I'm writing to you now in support of that application. I strongly encourage you to approve it so Indiana consumers and businesses will see the same benefits of open telecommunications competition that customers in many other states already realize.

There are many long distance providers in the State of Indiana. Rarely a week passes by where you do not receive or hear about some special advertisement regarding long distance. Under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, SBC-and other former monopolies-can seek to sell long distance once they prove that competition exist within the market place. I believe competition is alive and well in Indiana. Therefore, SBC should also be allowed to sell long distance and compete with likes of MCI-Worldcom and AT&T. Further, I believe the more competition will eventually bring more choices and lower prices for consumers. The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission has completed its investigation and offered its preliminary endorsement. I am hopeful that the FCC will approve the application so that Indiana consumers and businesses will see the benefits of increased competition.

Thank you for considering my letter of support on behalf of SBC Indiana.

Truly,


Stephanie DeKemper
President/CEO